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BOOK NOTES

Canestrini, Silvio. Ueber das Sinnesleben des Neugeborenen. Monographien aus dem Gesamtgebiete der Neurologie und Psychiatrie. Herausgegeben von A. ALZHEIMER, Breslau and Lawandowsky, Berlin. Berlin, Springer, 1913. 104 p.

The author of this monograph has attempted to study the sense development and reactions of the newborn child in waking and sleeping condition by a more exact method than has usually hitherto been used. The method employed consisted in testing the cerebral reactions of the child to various sensory stimuli by adjusting a specially devised apparatus, a modification of the Marey pneumograph, to the fontanelle of the child thus testing the cerebral pulse directly with simultaneous records of breathing. For the subjects of his experiments he chose infants of the age of one to fourteen days, selecting only those who had large and pulsating fontanelles so that the brain pulse and variations in the volume of the brain would be sufficiently pronounced to give graphic results. Altogether about 70 infants were studied and over 700 separate experiments were made. Different stimuli for the five different senses were employed, and the tests were made both in sleeping and waking condition, and the emotional condition of the child studied also.

The results of Canestrini's experiments in part corroborate and in part modify the results found by Kussmaul, Genzmer, Preyer and others who have studied the development of infants. Only in the sense of taste does the newborn child show a strikingly complete development and stands only a little below adult animals. As regards smell the human infant is far below newborn dogs and cats. The difference between the infant and the animal is still more striking when we consider the function of motility in general and certain psychic performances.

Among the most important results of Canestrini's own experiments are the following: The special tests of reaction to various sensory stimuli by the fontanelle method show that in the infant the sense of taste gives the most developed reactions, next perhaps are the reactions of the organ of hearing, no child being found among the 70 tested who did not react to acoustic impressions. From the day of birth on, light stimuli of definite intensity clearly influenced the breathing and the brain curve. The sense of touch showed strikingly slight reaction to pain stimuli and little excitability of the infants' nervous system to the electrical current. The strongest and promptest reaction occurred for stimuli of cold, which caused acceleration of breathing, increase of the brain volume, motor disturbances, but no regular change of the pulse frequency. The sense of smell showed the least development, as suggested by the author probably because an atrophy of this sense has already occurred.

This objective method which has been used also by Bechterew promises to give important results in case of children whose skulls are sufficiently metopic to allow the successful use of it.

W. H. B.

Psychologie der frühen Kindheit. Von WILLIAM STERN. Leipzig, 1914. 360 p.

Educators and psychogeneticists have long wanted a psychology of the early years of infancy and childhood. Here we have, so far as we know, the first attempt to furnish such a psychology, which follows certain main lines of interest from birth to the age of six years. The author begins with very general considerations about methods of child psychology, psychic developments, convergence, etc. He then takes up the speechless age, discusses its development of motive, the beginning of play organization, conquest of space memory, the activity of the Gemüth, etc. In the next part he discusses the development of speech, its four stages and beginnings, the end and composition of child language and its content, the factors and chief epochs. He then discusses the contemplation of pictures; then in successive sections, memory, fancy, play, forms of childish thought, the life of the soul and Gemüth, fear, aesthetic sensibility, feeling and treatment toward others, the effect of punishment, etc.

Probleme der Mystik und ihrer Symbolik. Von HERBERT SILBERER. Wien und Leipzig, Hugo Heller & Co., 1914. 275 p.

After an introductory part treating of dreams and interpretation of Märchen, comes second, an analytic part treating the psychoanalytic meaning of the parabola, alchemy, hermetic art, crossing of races and free masonry, and the problem of manifold interpretation. The third, synthetic part deals with introversion and rebirth, first sensationism and introversion, second, the consequences of the latter, and third, regeneration. Finally the writer discusses the mystic goal and the royal art. There is a copious literature and a convenient index.

The Great Society. A Psychological Analysis. By GRAHAM WALLAS. New York, Macmillan Co., 1914. 369 p.

This work treats of social psychology, instinct, intelligence, philosophy and environment, fear, pleasure, pain, happiness, the psychology of the crowd, love and hate, thought, the organization of thought and will, and the philosophy of absence.

Die Mystikerin Margaretha Ebner (c. 1291-1351). Von Dr. LUDWIG ZOEPF. Verlag B. G. Teubner, Leipzig und Berlin, 1914. 177. p.

This is a very interesting study of a mediaeval mystic and of her time. She was born in 1291 and her mystic period began in 1335, when she had a very vivid picture of the sufferings of Jesus and became mystically united with him. Then follows an account of her various dreams and visions, and finally her relations to her own period, to the cloister, the outer world, etc. The work is done with great thoroughness and there is a long list of authors.

The Elements of Psychology. By DAVID R. MAJOR. R. G. Adams & Co., Columbus, Ohio, 1914. 403 p.

In the present revision of this text two years after it first appeared we are told that "many paragraphs and sections have been rewritten. A number of new paragraphs have been added, two new figures have been introduced, and the topics in several of the chapters have been rearranged."

The Vital Law. By EDWIN M. JOHNSON. Vital Law Publishing Company, Kansas City & London, 1914.

Vol. 1. The Force That Operates Every Organism. 301 p.

Vol. 2. How Mind Causes the Force of Organism to Heal or Destroy. 302 p.

Vol. 3. How Mind Causes Chemical, Physical and Vital Changes. 291 p.

These three well printed volumes deal with such topics as the following: the force that works from within; the element of force; life, force and the body; hearing and seeing vital truths; life to them in the shadow of death; mind causes vital physical changes; the tongue heard and answered; suggestive therapeutics and the vital law; thy faith; physical, chemical and vital laws; the languages we interpret and speak; physiology; sundry links of evidence; scriptural guides; the vital law. This work is designed to be practical rather than theoretical, intuitive rather than erudite, insightful rather than scientific. One would hardly expect in a work of this kind that the author would be aware of the latest results of science where they touch his field; yet on such topics as hypnotism there are formal quotation from various modern authors; on the cell, quotation from E. V. Wilson; Burke, Origin of Life; on the senses Herter is quoted, and many other writers including scripture.

Psychology. General and Applied. By HUGO MÜNSTERBERG. New York & London. D. Appleton & Co., 1914. 470 p.

This seems to be the twenty-first volume of this prolific writer. One of his first books was on psychology and life, in which the argument was that they had no connection. This is designed to show almost the exact opposite. He says that the plan and aim of this book is very different from all the bewildering variety of other textbooks in that it includes applied as well as general psychology. "Hitherto textbooks have been confined to theoretical study. The time seems ripe for bringing the psychologist's work into full contact with the practical efforts of civilization." Moreover, we are told that this book is unique in that it includes social psychology. In the introduction he discusses aims, then casual psychology, its principles, and the elementary, group and social processes.

Then on page 285 begins what he calls purposive psychology, viz., individual and social experiences. Book three, beginning page 331, is called applied psychology, psycho-technical science, etc. Our own impression is that it is this section that is weakest and particularly the medical psychology which the author, who is believed to be a physician, so ignores.

The Psychological Monographs. Edited by CARL E. SEASHORE. Psychological Review Co., Princeton, N. J. & Lancaster, Pa., June, 1914. University of Iowa Studies in Psychology. No. VI. 177 p.

This is a study in accuracy of the voice in simple pitch singing by Walter R. Miles, the effect of training in pitch discrimination by F. O. Smith, the lower limit of tonality by T. F. Vance, who also has a paper on variation in pitch discrimination within the tonal range, and finally there is a study by R. M. Stewart on the effect of intensity and order on the apparent pitch of tones in the middle range, and a paper by Clara Hancock on the effect of intensity of sound upon the pitch of the low tones.

Die Philosophie der Gegenwart. Herausgegeben von Dr. ARNOLD RUGE. Heidelberg, Weiss'sche Universitätsbuchhandlung, 1914. 324 p.

This fourth volume contains titles from 1, *The American Journal of Psychology*, to 3531, *Ziese, Wachstum und Entwicklung*, and is well indexed.

Berlin in Wissenschaft und Kunst. Ein Akademisches Auskunftsbuch nebst Angaben über Akademische Berufe. Von Prof. Dr. WILHELM PASZKOWSKI. Berlin, Weidmannsche Buchhandlung, 1910. 336 p.

Die wirklichen Tatsachen der reinen Erfahrung, eine Kritik der Zeit. Von FRANZ SELETY. Leipzig, Johann Ambrosius Barth, 1913. 15 p. Sonder-Abdruck aus der Zeitschrift für Philosophie und philosophische Kritik.

Fortschritte der Psychologie und ihrer Anwendungen. Herausgegeben von Dr. KARL MARBE. III. Band—I. Heft. Leipzig, B. G. Teubner, April, 1914. 42 p. (Zur Psychologie des Denkens.)

Fortschritte der Psychologie und ihrer Anwendungen. Herausgegeben von Dr. KARL MARBE. II. Band—VI. Heft. Leipzig, B. G. Teubner, April, 1914. p. 322-371.

The Thirteenth Yearbook of the National Society for the Study of Education. Part II, Plans for organizing school surveys with a summary of typical school surveys. By H. L. SMITH & CHARLES H. JUDD. Chicago, University of Chicago Press, 1914. 85 p.

Wort und Seele: eine Untersuchung über die Gesetze in der Dichtung. Von HELLMUTH FALKENFELD. Leipzig, Felix Meiner Verlag, 1914. 132 p.